

Faculty Senate Minutes
Southwest Tennessee Community College
Macon Cove Campus
MA C 173
October 8, 2019

1. Call to Order and Roll

Faculty Senate president Bill Summons called the meeting to order at 3:00.
Secretary Doug Branch called the roll:

William Summons (18-20) **President**

Division Senators, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Mathematics

Doug Branch (19-21) **Secretary**

Annie Sultana (18-20)

Holly Green (18-20)

Thomas King (19-21)

Melissa Reyna (19-21)

Division Senators, Business and Technologies

Tim Harrison (18-20)

Kimberly Taylor (19-21)

Division Senators, Health and Natural Sciences

Joyce Johnson (18-20) **Treasurer**

Delores Thomas-Boland (19-21)

Department Senators

Shilpa Desai (18-20) **Allied Health**

Vicki Armstrong (19-21) **Business and Legal Studies**

Annette Fournet (19-21) **Communications and Fine Arts**

Julie Fournier (19-21) **Languages and Literature** Absent

Matthew Palotti (18-20) **Natural Sciences, Vice-President**

Marilyn Wilbourn (18-20) **Nursing**

Frank Daniels (19-21) **Mathematics, Parliamentarian**

Stewart White (19-21) **Technologies**

Darcy Sims (19-21) **Social and Behavioral Science** Absent

2. Approval of Minutes

The body approved the minutes from the September, 2019 faculty senate meeting.

Reports from Senate Officers and Senate Committee

- A. Matthew Palotti, vice-president, reported on the senate executive committee's regular monthly meeting with Sindy Abadie, Special Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Among the items in Matthew's report:

--There is an administrative focus on a new governance structure, including new committees to be formed by the president. There will be a Student Success Council and an Institutional Affairs Council, the latter dealing with all affairs not directly related to student success. All issues at the school will be filtered through one of these two councils. There will be a third council, too, yet unnamed, that will serve as a kind of "final say" committee. The goal of these committees is to streamline processes having to do with issues the school faces.

- B. Doug Branch, secretary, noted that he had sent a letter of commendation to Dr. Tracy Hall, expressing the faculty's thanks for recent raises. Doug had been asked at the previous meeting to compose and deliver send such a letter.

3. Old Business

- A. Joyce Johnson met with Jonathan Welden, director of the physical plant, regarding concerns about the difficult parking situation at the Union Avenue Campus. Joyce summarized that meeting. Notes from the meeting are appended to these minutes.
- B. Matthew Palotti noted that the senate's report to Dr. Hall about the proposed amendment to the senate constitution, the amendment having to do with a restructuring of the process by which the promotion and tenure committees are chosen, had not received a response. The body decided that if we do not hear from Dr. Hall, we will assume her approval of the amendment.

4. New Business

- A. Bill Summons, president, opened a discussion concerning the creating of new policies for faculty appointments. One major issue involves term contracts, many of which we have at Southwest. TBR wants colleges to phase these out, to be used only in unusual circumstances. The question becomes how, or whether, Southwest transitions faculty currently serving term contracts tenure track contracts. At issue, too, would be how the years already served under term contracts should count if a faculty member moves to a tenure track contract. Bill suggested the formation of an ad hoc faculty senate committee to propose recommendations. Frank Daniels, Matthew Palotti, Delores Thomas-Boland, and Thomas King agreed to serve on such a committee.

- B. Bill stressed the importance of communication with faculty, urging departmental senators to email their departments regularly. Doug added that it would be helpful if division senators could have regularly updated lists for members of their division, too, in order to facilitate communication. Bill noted that Sindy Abadie was currently attempting to create and distribute such lists.

5. The meeting was adjourned by Bill Summons at 4:40.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Branch,

Faculty Senate Secretary

Faculty Senate – Joyce Johnson

Meeting with Jonathan Welden, Director of Physical Plant

Re: Parking at Union

Sept 26, 2019 11am

What is the parking status at Union?

Parking study was finished in early June. The state architecture received the report. There was a meeting set with the administration – Mike Neal, Monica Johnson, Murray Harris. When the study was conducted, it was with the assumption that Beale Street lot would be returned to faculty/employee red lines.

Recommendations from the parking study:

1. In general, we have enough parking to adequately cover our needs, but not for the long term.
2. We needed to increase marketing efforts letting students know where they can park.
3. Turn over Beale street lot – return to employee only.
4. Renovate parking at Martin Luther King Drive (MLK) & Manassas. Encourage more use of this lot.
 - a. Issue – people don't feel safe and its too far to walk. It feels isolated and lacks a direct line of sight from the street; cross busy intersection.

Next Step:

1. Renovate MLK & Manassas
 - a. Lighting
 - b. Security gate with campus police. 24/7 video camera surveillance
 - c. New fence
 - d. Create accessible route to campus so people feel safe.
 - e. Branding with our name so people know it is a Southwest lot.
 - f. Tennis court will become a pedestrian corridor. ADA accessible.

- g. Regrade the hill, add some ramps, 12-18 ft. paved corridor.
- h. Created median(planted) across MLK to slow traffic and help pedestrians crossing MLK to parking lot. Walnut to Allied Health parking lot. Safety major part of their plan.
- i. Return Myrtle (Beale St.) lot to employee.

Timeline:

- Approved by Dr. Hall late July early Aug (summer 2019)
- Submitted notice to TBR in late Aug.
- No clear date when Myrtle lot will be returned. During the renovation of student lot, it will be closed, so parking will be limited. May be able to restripe the lot summer 2020; but no defendant at this time.
- Realistic expectations for completion summer 2021 for renovation

What about additional parking at Office Depot Lot for Union?

Owner doesn't want to sell. They only want to lease the building & or parking space. Exploring option with the owner, there is a push by the administration to let him know Southwest's interest in that lot. If the institution would be able to purchase Office Depot lot, a parking garage would be too expensive. Building would be used for other needs – maybe academics. The school is still trying to get the MLGW building at Beale & Myrtle.

